

The Tragedie

Since you will buckle fortune on my backe,
To beare the burthen whether I will or no,
I must haue pacience to endure the load,
But if blacke scandale or so foule fact reproach
Attend the sequell of your imposition,
Your meere inforcement shall acquittance me
From all the impure blots and stains thereof,
For God he knowes, and you may partly see,
How farre I am from the desire thereof.

May. God blesse your Grace, we see it, and will say it.

Glo. In saying so you shall but say the truth.

Buc. Then I salute you with this kingly Title:
Long liue King Richard, Englands royall King.

May. Amen.

Buc. To morrow will it please you to be crown'd?

Glo. Euen when you wil, since you will haue it so.

Buc. To morrow then we will attend your Grace.

Glo. Come, let vs to our holy taske againe;

Farewell good Cousen, farewell gentle freinds.

Exeunt.

Enter Queene mother, Dutchesse of Yorke, Marques

*Dorset at one doore, Dutchesse of Gloucester
at another doore.*

Dut. Who meets vs heere, my Neece Plantagenet?

Qu. Sister well met, whither away so fast?

Dut. Glo. No farther then the Tower, and as I guesse,
Vpon the like deuotion as your selues,
To gratulate the tender Princes there.

Qu. Kind sister thanks, weele enter all together.

Enter the Lieutenant of the Tower.

And in good time here the Lieutenant comes.

M. Lieutenant, pray you by your leaue,

How fares the Prince?

Lien. Well Madam, and in health: but by your leaue,

I may not suffer you to visit him,

The King hath straightly charged the contrary.

Qu. The King? why, who's that?

Lien. I cry you mercie, I meane the Lord Protector.

Qu. The Lord protect him from that Kingly title:

Hath he set bounds betwixt their loue and me:

of Richard the third.

I am their mother, who should keepe me from them?

I am their father, mother, and will see them.

Dut. Glo. Their Aunt I am in law, in loue their mother:

Then feare not thou. He beare thy blame,

And take thy office from thee on my perill.

Lien. I do beseech your Graces all to pardon me:

I am bound by oath, I may not do it.

Enter Lord Standly.

Stan. Let me but meete you Ladies at an houre hence,

And Ile salute your Grace of Yorke, as mother:

And reuerent looker on, of two faire Queenes.

Come Madam, you must go with me to Westminster,

There to be crowned Richards royall Queene.

Qu. O cut my lace in sunder, that my pent heart

May haue some scope to beate, or else I sound

With this dead liking newes.

Dor. Madame, haue comfort, how fares your Grace?

Qu. O Dorset, speake not to me, get thee hence,

Death and destruction dogge thee at the heeles,

Thy mothers name is ominous to children,

If thou wilt outstrip death, goe crosse the seas,

And liue with Richmond, from the reach of hell,

Goe hie thee, hie thee, from this slaughter house,

Least thou increase the number of the dead,

And make me die the thrall of Margarets curse,

Nor mother, wife, nor Englands counted Queene.

Stan. Full of wise care is this your counsell Madam,

Take all the swift aduantage of the time,

You shall haue letters from me to my sonne,

To meete you on the way, and welcome you,

Be not taken tardie, by vnwise delay.

Dut. Yor. O ill disappearing winde of miserie,

O my accursed wombe, the bed of death,

A Cocatrice hast thou hatcht to the world,

Whose vnauoyded eye is murtherous.

Stan. Come Madam, I in all haste was sent for.

Duch. And I in all vnwillingnesse will goe,

I would to God that the idelusive verge

Of golden mettall that must round my browe,